



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: LMX-129

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Heinrich Lang et al.) Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 09/800,114) Art Unit: 2872
Confirmation No.: 2747)
Filed: March 6, 2001)
For: Rearview Mirror Assembly for)
Motor Vehicles)
(As Amended Herein)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Box Amendment
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below and consider the remarks that follow.

IN THE TITLE

Please cancel the original title of the invention and substitute the following new title of the invention.

--REARVIEW MIRROR ASSEMBLY FOR MOTOR VEHICLES--.

0920014-0340

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicants propose amending the drawings as set forth in the attached Request for Approval of Drawing Changes.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please cancel the originally filed specification and substitute the enclosed substitute specification. The original specification was based on an English language translation of the German Priority Document and, as such, contained some awkward grammar and syntax and in some ways did not conform to typical U.S. practice. The substitute specification conforms to the specification to typical U.S. practice. A marked-up copy of the original specification is enclosed for the Examiner's reference. No new matter has been added to the specification not found in the originally filed specification, claims, and drawings.

ABSTRACT

Please enter the attached abstract.

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704259-41100860

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-9 and add Claims 10-34 without prejudice or disclaimer as follows.

--10. A rearview mirror assembly for attachment to a vehicle via a holding tube, the assembly comprising:

a housing including a framing element configured to attach to the holding tube; and

a clamping part configured to attach to the holding tube disposed opposite of the framing element, the framing element and the clamping part cooperating to clamp about the holding tube and releasably attach to each other, the clamping part further configured to fastenably hold a mirror element.

11. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 10, wherein the clamping part is a bracket element.

12. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 10, wherein the framing element defines a first recess and the clamping part defines a second recess, the first and second recess configured to encase the holding tube.

16. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 14, wherein the first clamping part is a plastic housing framing having at least one opening therethrough and the second clamping part is a bracket element.

17. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 16, wherein the bracket element is a material selected from the group consisting of reinforced plastic, fiberglass and metal.

18. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 16, wherein the bracket element has at least one hook element and the housing framing has at least one snap connection, the at least one hook element snap-connectable in the at least one snap connection to secure the housing framing and the bracket element together.

19. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 16, wherein at least one connection part is disposed on the bracket element, the bracket element having at least another opening therethrough, the at least another opening substantially overlapping the at least one opening of the housing framing.

20. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 19, further comprising at least one connection element configured to be fastened to the at least one connection part such that the housing framing and the bracket element are fastened together about the holding component.

21. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 20, wherein the at least one connection element is a screw.

22. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 20, wherein the at least one connection element is a rivet.

23. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 14, wherein the mirror element has a mirror pane and a carrier plate, and the mirror pane is configured to mount on the carrier plate.

24. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 23, wherein a first periphery of the mirror pane extends beyond a second periphery of the carrier plate, the mirror pane disposed flush to the carrier plate.

25. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 14, further comprising a positioning apparatus connected to the second clamping part, the mirror element fastened to the positioning apparatus.

26. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 25, wherein the positioning apparatus is electrically controllable.

27. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 14, further comprising a housing cover releasably bindable to the first clamping part.

28. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 14, further comprising means for securing the first and second clamping parts against rotational displacement relative to the holding component.

29. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 28, wherein the means for securing the first and second clamping parts includes at least one recess disposed in at least one of the first and second clamping parts, at least one projection disposed within the at least one recess, and at least one complementary recess disposed on the holding

component such that the at least one projection fits into the at least one complementary recess.

30. A rearview mirror assembly for a vehicle comprising:

a mirror element having a mirror pane affixed to a carrier plate;

a positioning apparatus affixed to the carrier plate opposite the mirror pane;

a framing, the positioning apparatus secured to the framing;

a bracket having an upper strip and a lower strip, the bracket releasably clamped to the framing; and

a first holding arm and a second holding arm, the first holding arm clampingly disposed between the upper strip and the framing and the second holding arm clampingly disposed between the lower strip and the framing.

31. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 30, wherein the upper strip defines a first recess and the lower strip defines a second recess, the first recess configured to receive the first holding arm and the second recess configured to receive the second holding arm.

32. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 31, wherein the first and second recesses each have at least one projection, and wherein the first and second holding arm each have at least one complementary recess, the at least one projection configured to be rotationally secured in the at least one complementary recess.

33. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 30, further comprising a housing cover releasably attached to the framing, the housing cover made of acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS) and framing made of fiberglass reinforced plastic.

34. The rearview mirror assembly of claim 30, wherein the carrier plate is acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS) and 30% fiberglass, the carrier plate having a thickness of between one and one and one-half millimeters.--

REMARKS

In this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have canceled Claims 1-9 and added Claims 10-34. Claims 10, 14 and 30 are Independent Claims and Claims 10-34 are pending.

Applicants have enclosed herewith a substitute specification and a marked-up copy of the original specification in order to place the specification in more typical U.S. format. Applicants respectfully request consideration and examination of the present Application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at his convenience should he have any questions regarding this matter or to resolve any remaining issues.

Please charge any fees required by this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

Respectfully submitted,

DORITY & MANNING, P.A.



Bernard S. Klosowski, Jr.

Reg. No. 47,710

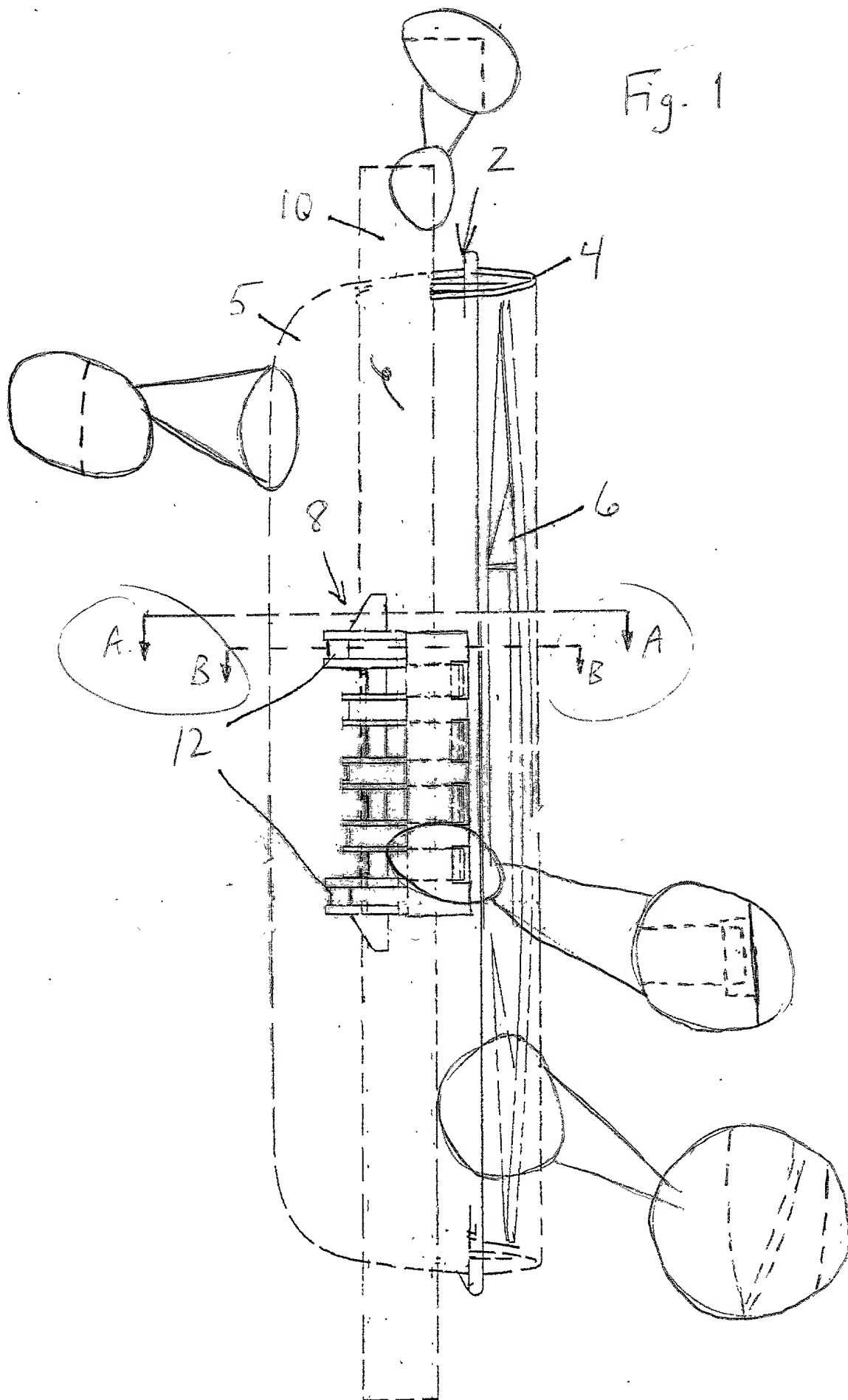
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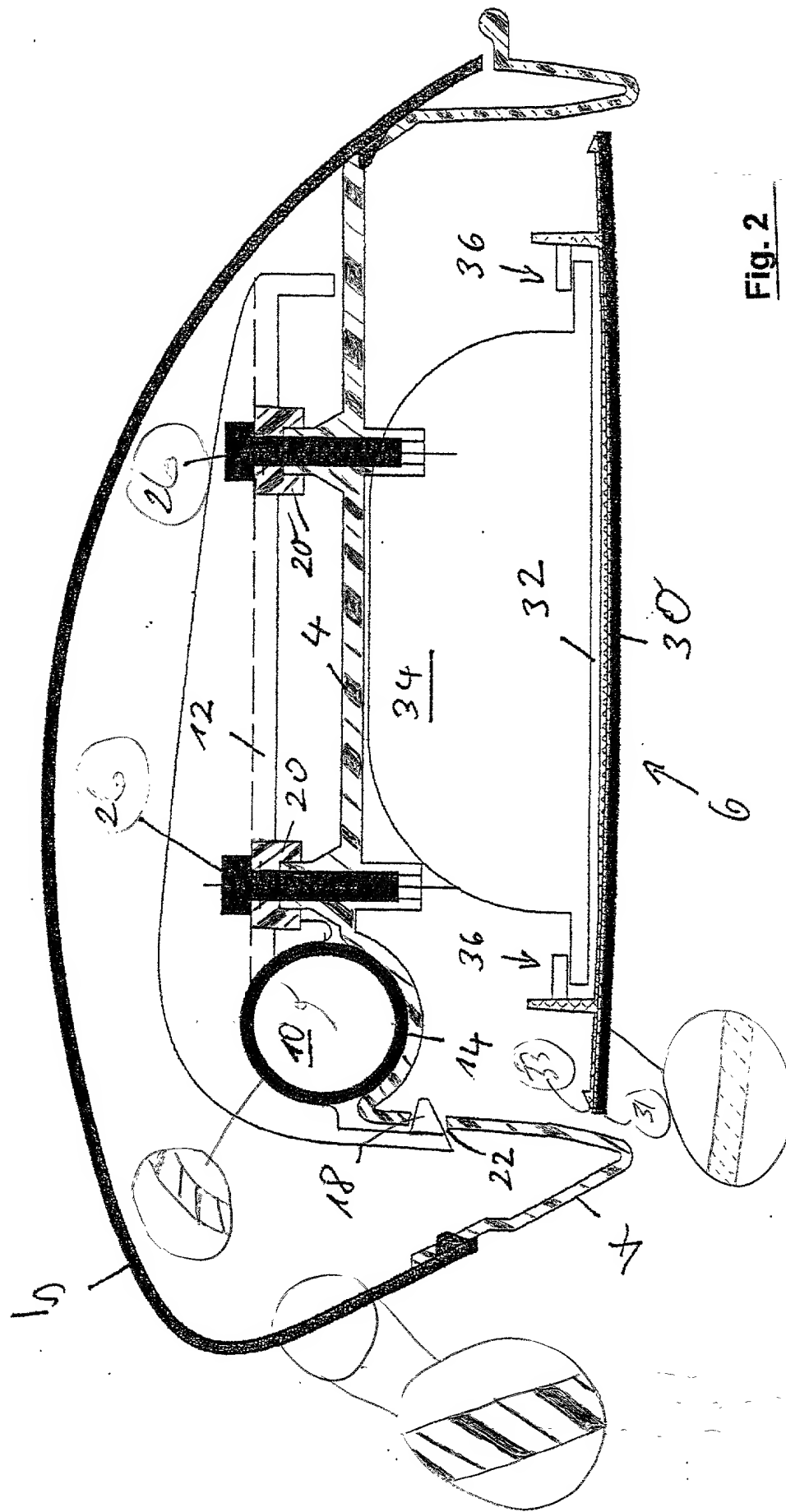
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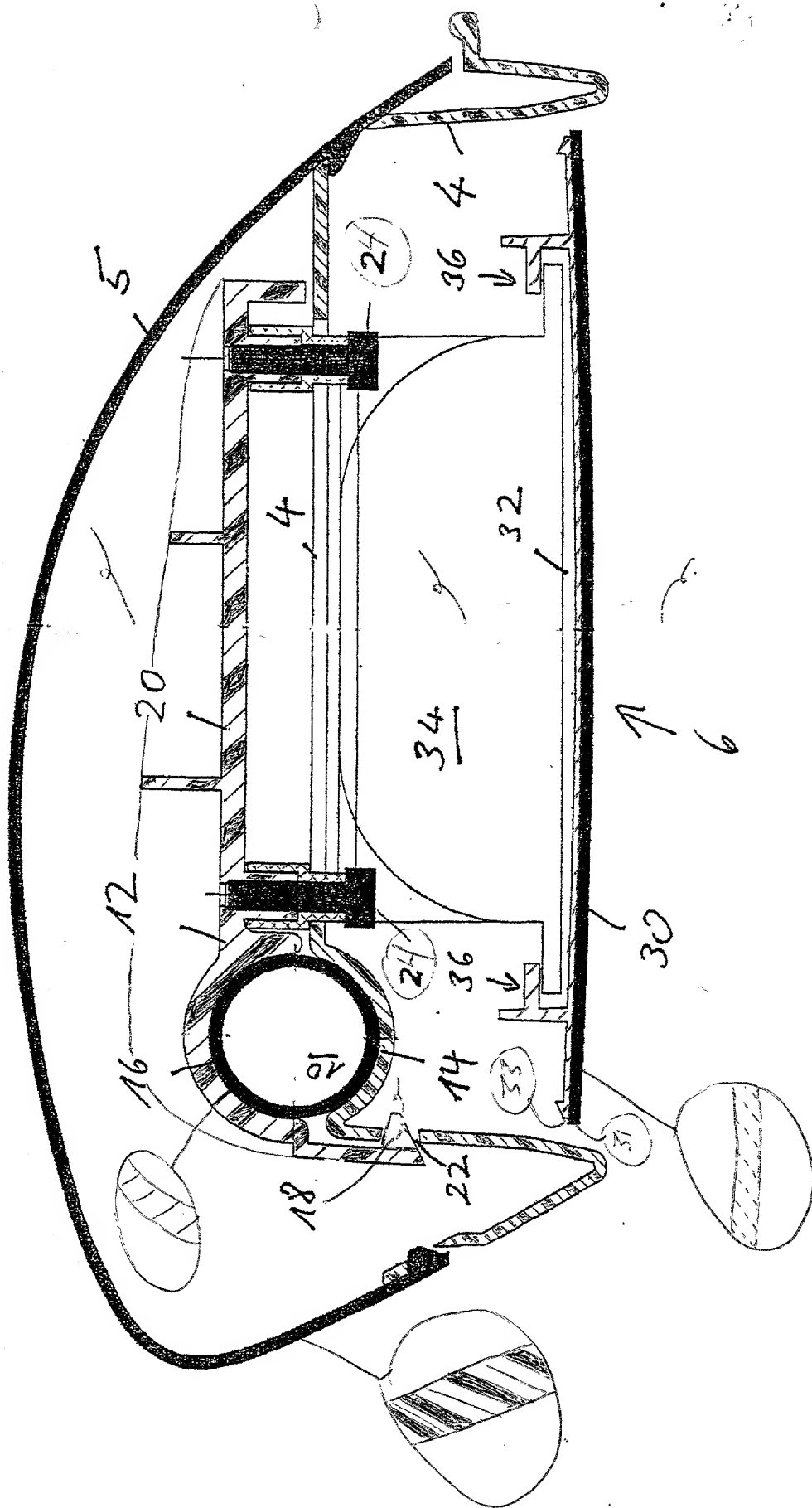


Fig. 3

Fig. 4

FIG. 4

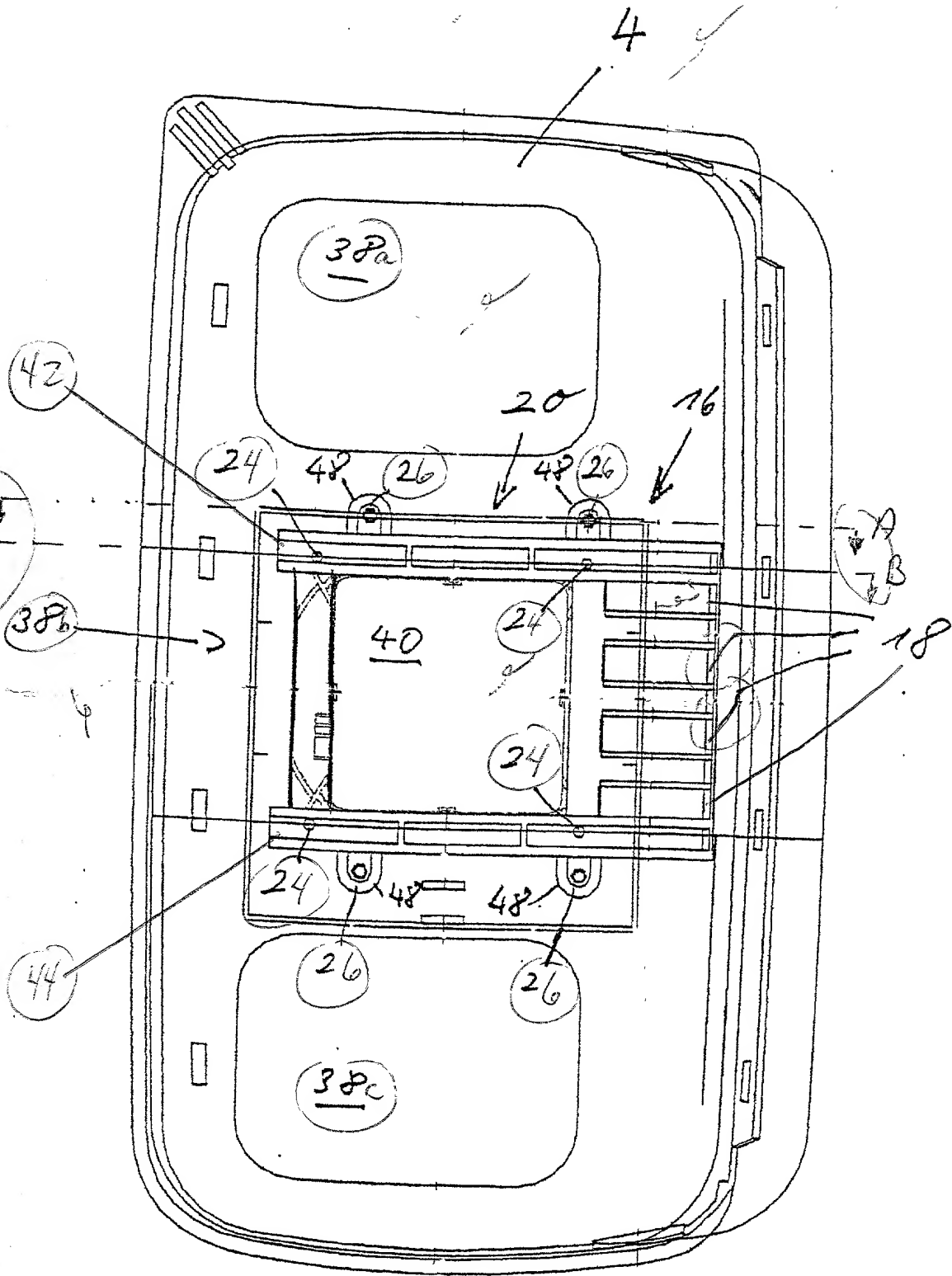
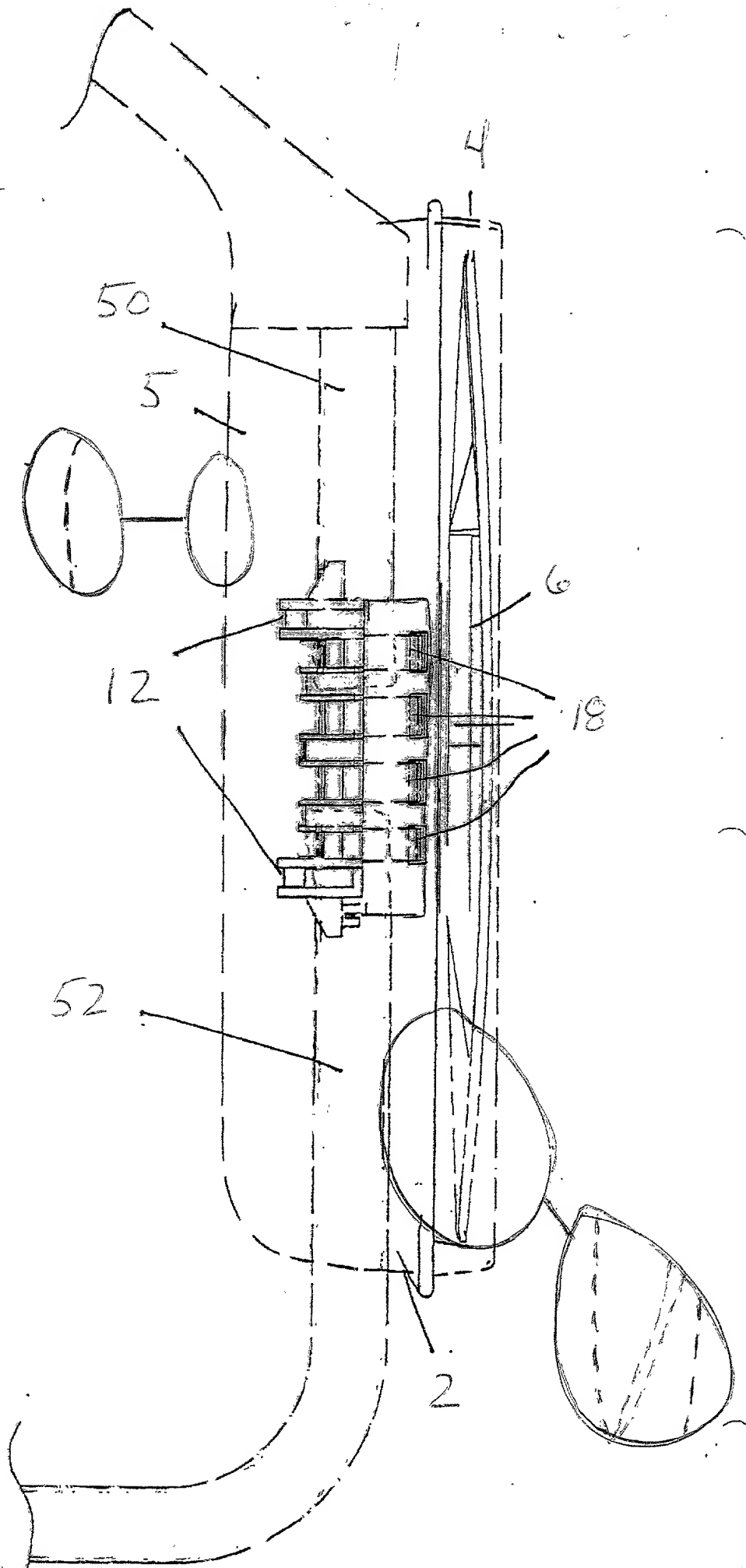


Fig. 5



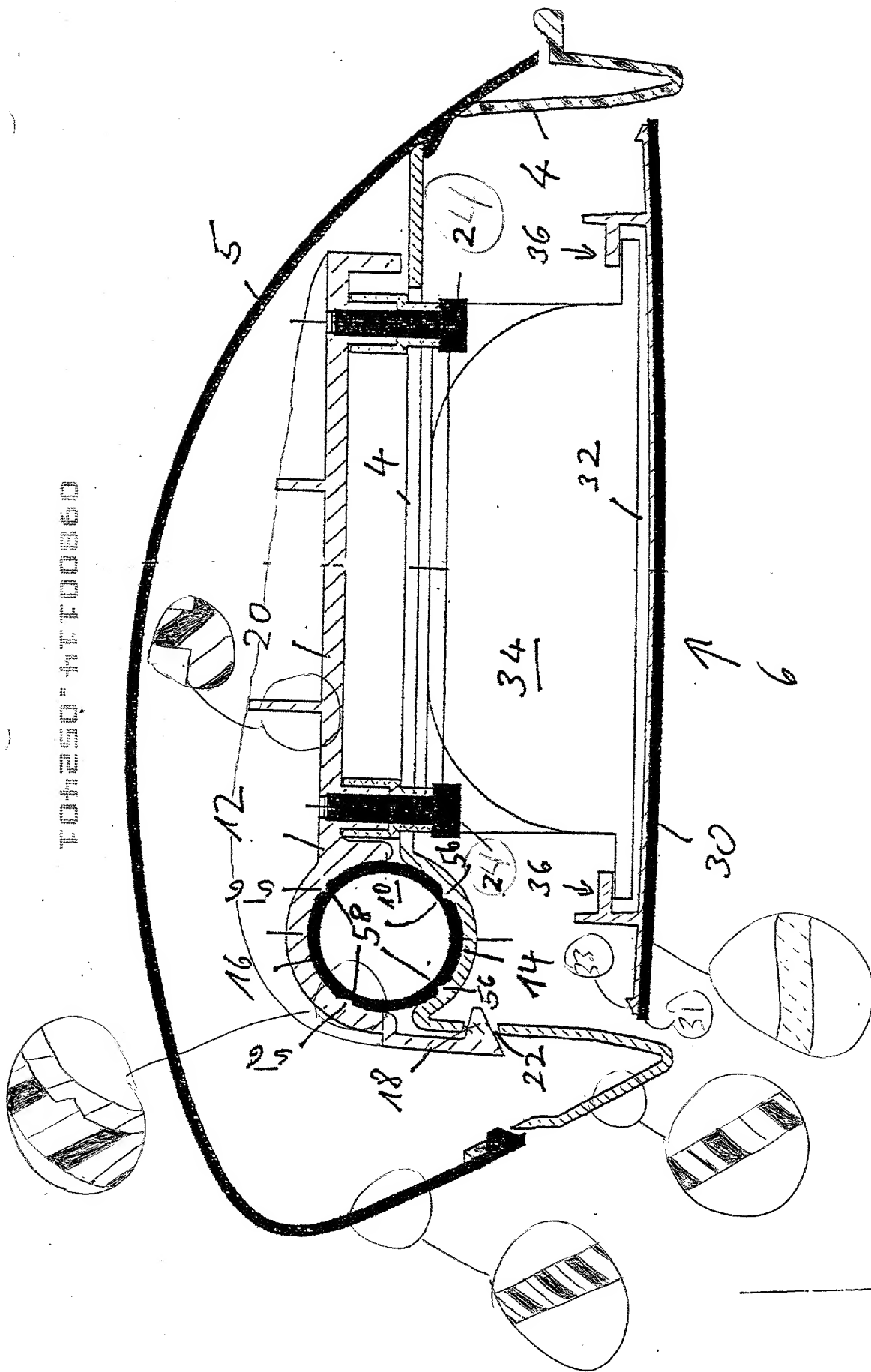


Fig. 6